



Covid-19 Related Pupil Absence – Reference Guide for Parents/Carers – Sept 2021

This document has been produced to help parents/carers access information quickly, but should be read in conjunction with national guidance for self-isolation.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

What to do if...	Action needed	Return to school when...
<p>My child has Covid-19 symptoms including any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new continuous cough • A high temperature • A loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not send your child to school • Contact school to inform us • Order an immediate confirmatory PCR test • Self-isolate any members of the household who are not fully vaccinated and are over the age of 18 years and 6 months 	<p>The PCR test comes back negative, and your child feels well enough to return to school.</p> <p>OR: The PCR test comes back POSITIVE: return once 10 days have passed following the date on which symptoms first began, AND your child feels well again.</p>
<p>My child tests positive for Covid-19 on an LFD (lateral flow device)</p> <p><i>NB: please note that lateral flow testing is not generally advised for children below secondary school age – this advice is provided as we know that some parents do use them for children.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not send your child to school • Contact school to inform us • Order an immediate confirmatory PCR test and inform the school immediately you receive the results • Self-isolate any members of the household who are not fully vaccinated and are over the age of 18 years and 6 months 	<p>The confirmatory PCR test comes back NEGATIVE, and your child feels well.</p> <p>OR: The PCR test comes back POSITIVE: return after 10 days have passed following the date of the first LFD test (or following the date that symptoms began if they were symptomatic prior to taking the LFD test) AND your child feels well.</p>
<p>My child tests positive for Covid-19 on a PCR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not send your child to school • Contact school to inform us • Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 10 days following the test date) • Self-isolate any members of the household who are not fully vaccinated and who are over the age of 18 years and 6 months 	<p>Return after 10 days have passed following the date of the PCR test (or following the date that symptoms began, if they were symptomatic prior to taking the PCR test), AND your child feels well.</p>
<p>Someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19 on an LFD.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household member with positive result to self-isolate and order an immediate PCR test • Self-isolate any members of the household who are not fully vaccinated and who are over the age of 18 years and 6 months 	<p>Child should continue to attend school providing they have no symptoms themselves.</p> <p>(Monitor them for any symptoms – please note that children with Covid-19 may display mild symptoms such as a headache/cold-like symptoms).</p>
<p>Someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19 on a PCR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household member to self-isolate and order an immediate PCR test • Self-isolate any members of the household who are not fully vaccinated and who are over the age of 18 years and 6 months 	<p>Child should continue to attend school providing they have no symptoms themselves.</p> <p>(Monitor them for any symptoms – as above).</p>

What to do if...	Action needed	Return to school when...
NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a close contact of a confirmed case of Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS Test and Trace will give instructions on whether a PCR test is needed and what other measures should be taken to minimise risks. • Child can continue to attend school 	<p>Child should continue to attend school providing they have no symptoms themselves.</p> <p>(Monitor them for any symptoms – as above).</p>
NHS Test and Trace has identified a household member/s as a close contact of a confirmed case of Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The household member/s must self-isolate if instructed by NHS Test and Trace (if over 18 years 6mths and not double vaccinated) and follow the guidance re: Covid testing (see below) • Child can continue to attend school 	Child should continue to attend School
My child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19 but could be contagious (for example sickness, diarrhoea) or is too ill to come to school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come to school • Contact school to inform us on the first day by phone, email or via StudyBugs • Keep us updated regarding the absence. 	After 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea (as per attendance policy) or when feeling well if not sickness related.

Along with adults who are double-vaccinated, children under the age of 18 years and 6 months old are no longer required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. However, even those exempt from self-isolation are advised to get a PCR test (if aged 5 and over), and to undertake other measures outlined in the guidance such as limiting contact with anyone who is extremely clinically vulnerable and for those over 11, wearing a face covering in enclosed spaces while the person in the household with COVID-19 is self-isolating.

Please note: The School is no longer responsible for identifying and informing close contacts and will only be involved in identification of close contacts if contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace.

You can view the full NHS guidance on when to self-isolate and what to do at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronaviruscovid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>.

My child has recently travelled abroad (i.e., during the summer break):

What you must do when you arrive in England from abroad depends on where you have been in the 10 days before you arrive. Please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/red-amber-and-green-list-rules-for-entering-england> for the latest information. This page lists countries and territories as red, amber or green and tells you what you must do if you have been in those countries or territories. If you have travelled abroad and (after consulting the relevant gov.uk page above) your child will not be able to attend school immediately on return, you must contact the school to inform us and to agree an earliest date for your child's possible return to school.